

About the Author

I was born and raised on the coast of the Japan Sea in the Russian city of Vladivostok. I graduated from the Faculty of Oriental Studies at the Far Eastern National University, and have dedicated almost 40 years to studying Japan, having defended both my MA and PhD theses on various aspects of Japanese culture. For the last 18 years, I have been living in Japan where I teach Russian history, language and culture. I have drawn upon my personal experience and observations in this book in an effort to explain how ancient traditions and cultural mentality work in contemporary Japan to make her a fascinating and attractive subject.